



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Homeland Security

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MONTHLY UPDATE

MARCH, 2007

Governor's California Maritime Security Council Holds First Meeting

The Governor's Maritime Security Council met on March 9 in Sacramento. Director Bettenhausen chaired the meeting, along with Rear Admiral Jody Breckenridge, who serves as the U.S. Coast Guard liaison. Governor Schwarzenegger created the Council by Executive Order in October last year. By bringing together all the important port partners from the federal, state and local levels, the California Maritime Security Council will help to identify areas where coordination will enhance security, emergency response and communications. The Council will work to develop policies to prevent terrorist attacks and implement processes to ensure the fastest possible

recovery from a natural or man-made disaster at one or more of our ports.

Over 30 executives from the port and maritime industry attended the council meeting. Discussion focused on the \$100 million port security grant program and subcommittee tasks. As a result of the council meeting, OHS convened a meeting with California's port security directors to discuss the need to adhere to a risk and consequence based criteria and options for allocating port security grants to ensure the entire port system is prepared to prevent and quickly recover from catastrophes. The next quarterly meeting of the Council will be held in June at the Port of San Francisco.

DHS Awards High-Tech Research Contracts to California Companies

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology directorate selected 22 high-tech small businesses - 5 from California - to participate in a program to assist in the research and development of homeland security solutions. Each of these firms will receive up to \$100,000 to define the scientific, technical and commercial merit of a particular concept. Firms submitting successful concepts in Phase I may be invited to apply for a two-year Phase II award, which will not exceed \$750,000.

The following are the California companies awarded Phase I funds:

- ⇒ Toyon Research Corporation, Goleta, CA
- ⇒ Physical Optics Corporation, Torrance, CA
- ⇒ UtopiaCompression Corporation, Los Angeles, CA
- ⇒ Intelligent Systems Technology, Inc., Santa Monica, CA
- ⇒ Quimba Software, San Mateo, CA

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Possible California Site for a National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (US-DHS) is in the process of selecting a site for the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF). According to US-DHS, the NBAF will research high-consequence biological threats involving human, zoonotic (i.e., transmitted from animals to humans), and foreign animal diseases.

The NBAF will be a Biosafety Level (BSL) 3 and BSL 4 live-stock laboratory which will research high-consequence biological threats involving human, zoonotic (i.e., transmitted from animals to humans), and foreign animal diseases. The Facility will provide advanced test and evaluation (T&E) capability for threat detection, vulnerability, and countermeasure assessment for animal and zoonotic diseases. The NBAF is an essential component of the national strategy for protecting U.S. agriculture from a bioterrorist attack involving the intentional introduction of foreign animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease.

The NBAF would be instrumental in mitigating the damages to California's livestock industry from foreign animal diseases such as: West Nile virus, exotic Newcastle disease; highly pathogenic avian influenza; anthrax and botulism in cattle; hantavirus; foot

and mouth disease; and vesicular stomatitis. Essential research for many of these diseases is currently hindered by inadequate containment facilities, currently located only at Plum Island, NY. Rapid detection of these animal diseases is the key to preventing an outbreak from becoming a catastrophe and saving the nation millions of dollars. One estimate is that the U.S. would lose \$1-\$3 million for every hour's delay in diagnosing an outbreak of foot and mouth disease. Having this facility in California would greatly leverage existing research efforts and provide the most rapid response to emergency disease events impacting our State.

The University of California has submitted a request that it be considered as a potential host for the new facility. Lawrence Livermore National Labs (LLNL) in conjunction with the University of California (UC) has proposed a 7,000 acre urban stretch of land that is situated between Tracy and Livermore, CA. US-DHS will be conducting a site visit on April 16, 2007 as a part of its selection process. Director Bettenhausen sent a letter to US-DHS Undersecretary Cohen in support of the University California proposal.

REAL ID Act: Proposed Rule Issued by US-DHS

US-DHS announced its proposed regulations to establish minimum standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards in compliance with the REAL ID Act of 2005. The REAL ID requirements are a result of 9/11 Commission recommendations, which Congress passed into law, and will enhance the security and integrity of driver's licenses. The proposed regulations were published in the Federal Register on March 9, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 46, Pages 10819-10858) and the public will have 60 days to submit written comments.

Representatives from the Office of Homeland Security and the Department of Motor Vehicles will attend a US Department of Homeland Security meeting with the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee in early April to provide formal comments on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Report to the Legislature on Homeland Security and Bioterrorism funds

A report on the expenditures of federal homeland security and bioterrorism funds drafted in collaboration with the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), California Volunteers (formerly California Service Corps), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, was submitted to the Legislature. The report provides an overview of the State's strategy to combat terrorism and details on how federal homeland security and bioterrorism funds have been invested to better prepare California for all types of disasters. OHS submitted the report to the Legislature.

The annual report can be found on the OHS website at www.homeland.ca.gov.

Grant Expenditure Update

Last fall, the Bureau of State Audits (BSA) issued a report questioning the rate at which recipients of federal homeland security funds were drawing down their allocations. Despite assurances to the contrary, BSA concluded that California was at risk for returning over \$250 million in homeland security funds from the FY 03 and FY 04 grants to the federal government. OHS is pleased to announce that, as was made clear last year, every

dollar allocated to homeland security in California for those grants has been drawn down and spent here in California. OHS has instituted a number of reforms in recent months that have led to better reimbursement process for grant recipients as well as a greater degree of strategic planning for how those funds are invested.



FY 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Application

In 2006, US-DHS changed its method for allocating the majority of federal homeland security funds to states and local jurisdictions by instituting a competitive grant process. OHS is drafting the state's application for the competitive portion of the FY 2007 Homeland Security Grant program. The application includes a comprehensive, state-wide enhancement plan, an overall threat analysis and 12 investment justifications. The application is due no later than April 3, 2007 to US Department of Homeland Security.

Immediately following the submission of the application to US-DHS, OHS will begin the process of helping local California counties develop their plans to spend the more than 80% of funds that are allocated to local jurisdictions for homeland security improvements. The goal is for locals to have plans in place prior to the allocation of funds, likely some time this summer.

The following workshops are currently scheduled:

April 3 - Glendale
April 4 - Riverside
April 5 - Santa Ana
April 10 - Redding

OHS Northern California Annual Conference

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security held the 2nd Annual Regional Conference for the Northern Region at the Marriott Oakland City Center March 13-15, 2007. The conference provided attendees with information on homeland security issues within the State of California and offered vital information on program changes for upcoming fiscal years.

Director Bettenhausen Attends Ontario Town Hall Meeting

Director Bettenhausen attended an Emergency Preparedness Town Hall Meeting in Ontario hosted by Assemblymember Nell Soto. State Auditor Elaine Howle provided information on the progress State agencies have made in protecting California in the event of terrorist attacks or other emergencies. Assemblymember Soto requested that a representative from OHS be available to provide information on OHS recent activities, and to address any concerns county and city officials may have.

Director Bettenhausen Talks Disaster Preparedness

Director Bettenhausen joined LA Times Columnist Patt Morrison on her KPCC radio show in Los Angeles to discuss California's level of preparedness in light of Stephen Flynn's recent book *The Edge of Disaster*. The two discussed port security at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and the vulnerabilities and consequences of an earthquake causing major damage to Sacramento-area levees. Director Bettenhausen interviewed

with Morrison for about 10 minutes, emphasizing Governor Schwarzenegger's commitment to levee construction and repair as well as preventing disasters before they happen. In addition, Director Bettenhausen highlighted California's leadership in both disaster prevention and anti-terrorism efforts at California's ports, noting Governor Schwarzenegger's leadership in securing passage of Proposition 1B, which includes \$100 million for port security.

Expiration of California's Membership in the Emergency Management Assistance Compact

In the midst of the Hurricane Katrina emergency response effort, Governor Schwarzenegger enhanced California's ability to share emergency resources with other states by signing Assembly Bill 823 (Chapter 233, Statutes of 2005). This bill ratified and approved California's membership in the nationwide Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

EMAC is the primary legal tool that states use to immediately send and receive emergency personnel, equipment, and aid during any major emergency or disaster as declared by the affected state's governor. For example, with the authority given by EMAC, OES coordinated the response of 2,700 California first responders

to areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Prior to adopting EMAC, the State was forced to either share resources through federal legal mechanisms or await the OES-negotiated governor-to-governor agreements with other states, which often lengthened response time. This compact became inoperative in March and OHS is encouraging the legislature to quickly pass legislation bringing California back into EMAC. On March 28, the Assembly Government Operations committee heard testimony from OHS and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services about this urgent need.

Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)-A 2007 Requirement

US-DHS has made it a requirement for states to complete a SCIP by November 1, 2007 in order to qualify for Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding. OHS, along with other California representatives involved with key components of statewide interoperable communications planning, attended the National Governor's Association (NGA) Statewide Planning Workshop for Public Safety Communications Interoperability. This workshop brought together teams from all U.S. states and territories to help clarify the requirements of the SCIP and to share best practices.

California is ahead of many states in the planning process for many reasons: extensive experience that we have had in fighting fires and floods, mitigating the results of devastating earthquakes and other disasters, California already has many SOPs in place; California shares mutual aid response channels; has industry leading technology; and, uses interoperable communications on a daily basis and has a full governance structure.

The governing body of statewide interoperable communications planning is the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIEC). CALSIEC is made up of state and local practitioners and has divided the state into four planning areas: North, Capitol-Bay, Central, and South. During the planning workshop, it was reiterated by California as well as our Federal partners that the SCIP should be practitioner driven, the develop-

ment of CA's SCIP naturally fell under the governance of CALSIEC.

OHS has made technical assistance available to the CALSIEC planning areas for assistance in the creation of the SCIP. The first meeting will be on April 10 in Cordelia, CA to discuss the framework and receive further feedback from those who were not able to attend the NGA meeting.

The SCIP writing process is as follows:

- First planning meeting on April 10 of the full CALSIEC body in Cordelia, CA.
- Technical Assistance visits will occur to each of the CALSIEC planning areas for the development of the regional interoperable communications plans through the input of state and local agencies.
- These four plans will then be used in combination to develop the SCIP. (This makes local participation in the CALSIEC planning areas critical to the accomplishment of the SCIP).
- As a parallel effort to support the information in the SCIP, the CALSIEC planning areas will work with Operational Areas to complete Tactical Interoperable Communication Plans (TICPs) beyond those already completed by the Urban Areas last year.

For more information regarding your planning area, how to get involved, and general information about the SCIP, TICPs and CALSIEC please visit www.calsiec.org. Local participation, and taking advantage of available technical assistance, will benefit localities as there will be future local interoperable communications requirements for available grant funding.

Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) Grant Program

The US Department of Commerce was on site at the NGA planning workshop to answer questions and discuss its plan for administering the PSIC Grant Program. This program is comprised of \$1 billion, raised from the auctioning of spectrum made available after the digital television transition. The allocation of the \$1 billion to each state, as well as the grant guidance, will be made available in mid July. Although the guidance has not been released yet, the memorandum of understanding signed between the Department of Commerce and US Department of Homeland Security for administration of the grant gave indications that the

amount would be based on a "risk" formula. These funds will not be made available until the State has completed its SCIP, and that SCIP is approved by DHS. The grant will be administered through the State, and local grant guidance will be disseminated shortly after the allocation is made in mid-July. The percentage of the grant funding to localities is estimated to be high, giving even more incentive for participating in your CALSIEC planning area. The deadline for submission of the SCIP to DHS has been set at November 1 (draft due September 30). A special CALSIEC meeting to address the topic has been scheduled for April 10, 2007.

Please see www.calsiec.org for further information on this meeting and planning area meetings.

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More Opportunity For Grant Funds for CA Firefighters

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently announced the start of the fiscal year 2007 application period for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. DHS will award more than \$492.3 million this year to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency management organizations across the nation, bringing the total provided through this program since 2004 to roughly \$2.2 billion.

California's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) wants to help our firefighters take a larger piece of this program than the State has received in previous years and is committed to helping our local partners through the process. Our firefighters are the front line of response to the entire range of emergencies California faces each year and having the most modern tools and training available is our priority. In the past the Fire Service has not maximized their grant opportunities as often as their Law Enforcement brethren. OHS is committed to seeing a change in our fire service's preparation for these annual grant opportunities.

AFG awards assist first-responder organizations in purchasing response equipment, personal protective equipment, and vehicles. Awards are allocated

through two AFG programs. The Operations and Safety program prioritizes funding for activities such as training, equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness, and health and safety modifications to stations and facilities. The Vehicle Acquisition program prioritizes funding for assets such as brush trucks, tankers and tenders, rescue vehicles, ambulances, aeriels, foam units, and fireboats.

AFG awards are determined on a competitive basis at the Federal level. Fire service professionals representing the nine major fire service organizations select the applications that best fulfill AFG program priorities. Applicants will be encouraged to submit projects that involve more than one jurisdiction and further integrate regional response capabilities.

This application period ends May 4. Applications are available online at three locations: www.firegrantsupport.com, www.usfa.fema.gov and www.grants.gov. For assistance from California's Office of Homeland Security, please contact Larry Davis, our Deputy Director of Grants and Administration.

OHS Professional Profile : **Larry Davis, Deputy Director Grants Management**

Larry Davis joined the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) in February 2005 and was appointed to Deputy Director of Grants Management by Governor Schwarzenegger in October of 2006. In this important role, Larry is required to understand the complexities of both the Grants process and the concepts of the applications submitted. Fortunately, Larry has brought a wealth of experience to OHS.

Like many of OHS' staff, Larry came to state service with subject matter expertise from the public safety field. Larry worked for fifteen years in the City of Fairfield Fire Department in a number of roles. He served as a Firefighter, Fire Engineer, Building Inspector, and Fire Specialist III. Throughout this portion of his career he served as both a strong representative for firefighters and as a project manager for the Fire Department's administration.

Larry began his service to the State of California in 1989 at the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). His gifts at HCD were soon developed from program management to grants management. He quickly rose through the ranks mentoring many state employees as their manager for various grants initiatives, including Child Care

Facilities, Central Valley Infrastructure Development, Jobs Housing Balance Incentive Program and the California Community Enterprise Fund.

Larry's breadth of experience in Grants Management and Field Expertise has made him instrumental in the successes of OHS. Since 2002, California has administered more than \$1 billion in grants funds at the state, regional and local levels to significantly improve physical security at critical sites, upgrade equipment and conduct exercises. His commitment to the safety of all Californians and the security of our great state are true examples of what we all work towards at the Office of Homeland Security.

Larry holds A.S. degrees from Solano Community College in Fire Science and Real Estate. He also holds certificates from the State of California in Fire Command, Fire Management, and Fire Prevention. Larry lives in Sacramento and has three wonderful sons, Patrick, Christopher, and Andrew. Patrick and Christopher are currently serving their country in Iraq.

